FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PRESIDENT BIGNONE FLIES TO PATAGONIA 17 APR

PY181515 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 17 Apr 83 p 13

[Text] President Reynaldo Bignone begins a three-day trip to Patagonia aimed at promoting industrial development in the southern provinces today during which he will announce some 25 measures to speed economic growth in the region. The president will also announce special housing programmes and substantial reductions in air fares to the region, it was confirmed yesterday.

Ushuaia Press Conference

PY191820 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Within the framework of his visit to Patagonia, President Reynaldo Bignone gave a press conference at Ushuaia. Following are excerpts of his statements: [Begin Bignone recording] I have the great pleasure of finally being able to visit the national territory of Tierra del Fuego. I will then visit Santa Cruz and Chubut Provinces and in the near future, during the month of May, I hope to complete my tour with a visit to Rio Negro and Neuquen Provinces. [end recording]

At the end of his visit to Ushuaia, President Reynaldo Bignone left for Rio Gallegos where he was met at the local airport by Santa Cruz Governor Brig Antonio Diego Lopez and other high-ranking military, civilian and church officials.

GROUP ISSUES THREAT AGAINST BRITISH SUBJECTS

PY181335 Paris AFP in Spanish 2047 GMT 17 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (AFP) -- The Argentine Anticommunist Alliance (AAA) threatened today to murder all members of the British Embassy in Buenos Aires and the 100 members of the British colony in Argentina if the ship Lago Lacar which is going to transport to the Malvinas Islands the relatives of the soldiers who died in the South Atlantic war is attacked. A spokesman of the AAA said in a telephone call to the newspaper CRONICA of Buenos Aires that they already have the list of the future victims. The newspaper published today a summary of the conversation between the AAA spokesman and an editor of the daily who received the call.

UK Cleric's Visa Request Denied

PY151225 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 Apr 83 p 11

[Excerpt] Reverend Philip Morgan, secretary general of the British Council of Churches, has been denied a visa to enter Argentina by the military government, the (Argentine) Church Advisory Council claimed yesterday. Morgan had planned to meet here with Argentine church leaders of various faiths as part of a mission aimed at speeding the opening of negotiations between Britain and Argentina to solve the Malvinas islands conflict.

Church sources said that the religion under-secretariat had approved Morgan's visa but that it was cancelled at the last minute by the Foreign Ministry. "We must condemn this discriminatory and anti-ecumenical act by our authorities despite the clear position our churches took during the South Atlantic conflict," the statement by the Argentine church group reads.

Methodist Bishop Federico Pagura and Professor Jose Miguez Bonino, a director of the World Council of Churches, travelled to Montevideo to meet with Morgan and explain the situation to him, council sources said.

CNEA CHAIRMAN ON PLANS FOR NUCLEAR SUBMARINE

PY151912 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Undated interview granted by Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], upon returning from Lima, Peru at Ezeiza Airport in Buenos Aires -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Does Argentina plan to build a nuclear submarine?

[Answer] Building a nuclear submarine is a long-range project that will call for a significant investment. The Argentine people would have to decide, through their representatives to the congress, whether this project would benefit the country. The CNEA is carrying out a feasibility study to determine whether the submarine could be built with Argentine technology.

GENERAL DENIES RUMORS OF DISCORD WITHIN ARMY

PY170006 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0115 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 15 Apr (NA) -- Gen Mario Piotti, the army secretary general, said tonight that "there are no disagreements or resentments" within the army. He also pointed to the "unity within the army" and "the unity within the armed forces in general." During a meeting he held with journalists at the Libertador building tonight, the military leader said that "the army is being led by its legitimate commanders in keeping with regulations." He noted that "if the army is united, it cannot be affected by attacks from outside."

General Piotti said that "there are no disagreements within the army regarding Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, who has been punished for violating regulations that are in force since the commission that is studying the Malvinas issue has not yet completed its task." However, the military leader admitted that "the path leading to the constitutionalization of the country is a difficult one since there are still wounds that must be healed and problems that must be solved."

The army secretary general said that "it is very strange that there are some who try to prove the existence of disagreements," within the army but he noted that "there are no disagreements or resentments" within the army. He said: "Fortunately, the members of the media who invent situations that are far from reality are few."

MAGAZINE REPORTS ON REARMING OF ARMED FORCES

PY181700 Paris AFP in Spanish 1412 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Apr (AFP) -- The arrival in Argentina of several types of weapons during the past few months has revived here the question about the rearmament of the armed forces after the Malvinas war through the purchase of large amounts of weapons.

The weekly magazine SOMOS, which consulted several military sources, has reported here that the Argentine Navy's overall budget amounts to $5 billion, and that $2 billion has already been spent.

The Air Force, which paid the highest price in the war due to the loss of fighter planes, now has 77 Mirage aircraft, a number slightly higher than what it had before the beginning of the South Atlantic conflict. According to the report, the Air Force also has Libyan and Israeli bombs.

The Navy purchase program agreed upon with France before the conflict with Great Britain, has been increased with the purchase of 10 Super Etendard planes and 20 Exocet missiles, according to the source.

The Army is the branch which is facing the greatest problems in modernizing its armaments and other logistic equipment, the report states. The priority programs include antiaircraft defense, the fleet of helicopters and the inclusion of the infrared ray system for night combat.

AIR FORCE DENIES PURCHASE OF BRAZILIAN AIRCRAFT

PY191915 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1540 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Apr (TELAM) -- Through a communique issued today, the Argentine Air Force denied press reports on the alleged purchase of Brazilian aircraft as part of its refurbishing program. The Air Force also pointed out that it has not acquired combat materiel since the end of the armed conflict over the southern archipelago.

The text of the Air Force communique reads: The Air Force hereby categorically denies reports published today by various sectors of the national media which report on the purchase of Xavante fighter planes from the Brazilian company Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company].

As is certified in the project for the construction of the IA-63 aircraft, the Air Force has decided to develop this type of materiel with Argentine experts and labor. The first flight of this prototype is scheduled for the end of the current year. Moreover, and in view of the country's current economic situation, the Air Force deems it its duty to inform the citizenry that -- in compliance with budget restrictions and with the purpose of not increasing the foreign debt -- it has not acquired air combat materiel since the end of the conflict over the Malvinas.

The Air Force also notes that it strictly adjusted to the funds made available by the national executive branch and did not project any funds for refurbishing its materiel in the 1983 national budget. Moreover, it reiterates that it has no purchases scheduled for this year and that it will submit its needs to refurbish its materiel to the new constitutional authorities for their consideration.

The Armed Forces, as part of the government, would lack the moral authority to demand the other sectors of the country to tighten their expenditures if it, in principle, in its capacity as an institution, did not set the example for what it seeks.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH ORDERS 72 DETAINEES RELEASED

PY151445 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Report from Government House]

[Excerpt] Yesterday, the executive branch ordered the release of 47 detainees who were in the custody of the government. The executive branch also decided to release 25 other citizens on parole pursuant to the provisions of Law 21,650. This report was made by Interior Minister Llamil Reston.

COURT ORDERS RETURN OF CONFISCATED MAGAZINE

PY151445 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1250 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Apr (NA) -- The appeals court has confirmed the injunction submitted by the PERFIL publishing house in view of the confiscation of issue No 328 of magazine LA SEMANA and it ordered the restitution of the issues that have been confiscated. The court gave the executive branch 24 hours to comply with the court order.

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PARTY MEETS REQUIREMENTS

PY191831 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2036 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 14 Apr (TELAM) -- During a press conference Emilio Giannoni, secretary general of the Democratic Socialist Party [Partido Socialists Democratico -- PSD], disclosed that the party had fulfilled all requirements necessary to be recognized as a national party. The PDS is headed by Americo Ghioldi. Giannoni pointed out that this party, loyal to a traditional pattern of behavior, obtained its members by advocating principles and projects rather than appealing to personalities as has been the chracteristic of other political forces.

He added that the party did not resort to the small provinces in order to obtain the necessary minimum number of members, but that it managed to complete its list in the provinces of Cordoba, Buenos Aires and the federal capital. Giannoni made these statements at the inauguration ceremony of the national executive committee's headquarters on 822 Avenida de Mayo, first floor. It was also disclosed that the political action commission will meet this afternoon at Ghioldi's residence (84 Ambrosetti Street) to discuss important current issues.

DEFENSE MINISTER GOES TO BOLIVIA ON WORK VISIT

PY180325 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0030 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Excerpt] San Salvador de Juyuy, 17 Apr (TELAM) -- Defense Minister Julio Martinez Vivot today left from this city for Bolivia on a work visit.

NAVY COMMANDER RETURNS AFTER PERU VISIT

PY130339 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0055 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 12 Apr (TELAM) -- Navy Commander in Chief Adm Ruben Oscar Franco returned to this capital today from Peru after a 5-day official visit to this country.

FOREIGN MINISTER DISMISSES CABINET CRISIS RUMOR

PY191535 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 1900 Apr 83

[Text] Yesterday, Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado, dismissed the possibility of a cabinet crisis. This rumor had been spread by various media sectors. The foreign minister made this statement during a brief meeting with journalists at the end of a meeting with President Siles Zuazo at government house. Velarde Dorado stated that it is not true that a cabinet crisis might take place. This was his answer to questions posed by journalists who were inquiring about the rumors being spread by some sectors of the media.

MINEWORKERS INTERVENE COMIBOL DUE TO STRIKE

PY200314 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] The Mining Corporation of Bolivia [Comibol], which is the main state mining firm of the country, has been intervened by the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia [FSTMB] as a result of the nationwide indefinite strike by Comibol professionals begun 15 days ago. It was reported that the purpose of the intervention was to reorganize Comibol, which has been experiencing serious economic and financial problems since its creation on 31 October 1953.

The FSTMB rank and file totally support the measure adopted by the FSTMB this afternoon because the workers will now manage Comibol in keeping with the historic decision made after the national revolution of 1952. FSTMB Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo stated that Comibol's deterioration was caused by the ineffectiveness of Comibol's professionals. Lechin Oquendo made this statement upon intervening Comibol's headquarters, which is located on Mariscal Santa Cruz Avenue in front of the obelisk in downtown La Paz.

Juan Lechin Oquendo, former mines minister during the administration headed by the National Revolutionary Movement, stated the following on intervening Comibol: [Begin Lechin recording] What is serious and curious about this issue, messrs journalists and Bolivian people, is that the workers are the only people interested in maintaining production at the mines. The government has not adopted any measures in this regard. The FSTMB has been making the problem that is affecting the mines known to the public since early yesterday, before it adopted the decision. The FSTMB adopted the decision to safeguard national interests because we want to maintain production even if it is only at the present low rate.

Comibol's production has decreased due to the incompetence of many of its professionals. We want to obtain the dollars needed by the country to import food products and particularly inputs so that the mines and the factoreis will not close down. These are the most important reasons that prompted us to adopt this measure. [end Lechin recording] Lechin Oquendo also stated that the FSTMB will appoint new, high-ranking officials on Wednesday. Further on in his speech he said that patriotic professionals will be asked to cooperate with Comibol.

As for workers comanagement in La Palca, Lechin Oquendo stated that the Soviet technicians left the plant at the express request of Comibol's authorities.

[Begin Lechin recording] The agreement signed between the USSR and Comibol provided that the Soviet technicians were to stay at the plant until they finished training Bolivian technicians and workers. Bolivian technicians and workers are currently managing La Palca very well.

All this shows that attempts are being made to create a force foreign to producers, public servants, bankers, railway workers, teachers, factory workers, oilworkers and mineworkers. This is the first time that a democratic country has allowed Comibol professionals and officials to declare a strike. What for? Just to increase their wages when the employees at Comibol's headquarters do not even have a desk each. I remind you that when the mines were nationalized this was the only building Comibol had. Comibol produced 27,000 tons with 135 technicians, it had a limited bureaucracy and everybody worked. However, we now have four buildings full of so-called technicians who do not even go to the mines to learn and to suggest measures. This is an opportunity for Comibol to be reorganized, something that has not been done for many years. It is high time to begin Comibol's reorganization and this is the purpose of the FSTMB's intervention. [end Lechin recording]

[The Bolivian Labor Federation [COB], the top labor organization, has expressed total support for Comibol's intervention. COB Secretary General Oscar Sanjines Rodrigues stated the following: [Begin Sanjines recording] For this reason, I hereby praise this decision on behalf of the COB Executive Committee and convey the Bolivian workers' heartfelt support for it. The government's disregard for Comibol has prompted an adequate, specific and categorical reaction from the mineworkers. This is a warning against any attempt by Bolivia's bureaucracy to put (?obstacles) along the national liberation path chosen by the Bolivian people. [end Sanjines recording]

LA PAZ BUS DRIVERS' STRIKE CAUSES PROBLEMS

PY192156 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Excerpt] People had to put up with a partial stoppage of the public transport system today which prevented them from getting to their jobs both at private and public institutions. A sudden suspension of transport services caused serious problems for La Paz productive sectors, according to reports from different state and private institutions.

This suspension of the transport services was reportedly caused by a blockade carried out in the El Alto neighborhood as of 0900 this morning. The drivers of small buses and buses that serve this neighborhood, which is some distance away from the capital, provoked an outraged protest from the people of this neighborhood. These drivers decided to suspend services to this area and charged double the regular price to take riders to their stops.

PRESIDENT WANTS PERU AT SEA ACCESS TALKS

PY192324 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Excerpt] President Hernan Siles Zuazo stated that Peru cannot be absent from an eventual negotiation to solve the Bolivian landlocked situation. The chief of state, who made these statements to Channel Four of Lima, asserted that Bolivia's landlocked situation affects three parties. The president was thus refering directly to Chile and Peru.

Channel Four broadcast a special program on Bolivia which included an interview granted by President Hernan Siles Zuazo in that city. The president stated explicitly that Peru cannot remain outside the quest for a just and legitimate solution which will strengthen peace on our American continent.

He then reiterated that Bolivia will struggle continuously for its legitimate right to recover the land it has lost as well as its outlet to the sea lost during the Pacific war waged against Chile in 1879. Siles also stated that this unjust situation cannot be maintained at a time when the rapproachement of the people is placed above any undemocratic government.

President Siles stated that the Peruvian Foreign Ministry's position, which maintains that the issue is a bilateral problem between Bolivia and Chile and that Peru would only intervene should the solution include land which currently belong to it, is inadmissible.

During the interview with Channel Four, President Siles Zuazo also referred to domestic policy. The president was accompanied by Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora; Juan Lechin Oquendo, head of the Bolivian Labor Federation; rightist deputy Eudoro Galindo and Armando Mariaca, co-director of PRESENCIA.

On this occasion, President Siles voiced his certainty that the Bolivian people as a whole, that is, civilians and military, are determined to avoid a military coup. He pointed out that the armed forces are currently headed by those commanders and officers of the resistance period who sought the country's democratization. Siles voiced his certainty and confidence that the armed forces are once again becoming reconciled with the people for the purpose of strengthening peace, democracy and social justice.

COB PROPOSES POLITICAL, ECONOMIC CHANGES

PY170320 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] The Bolivian Labor Federation, COB, has proposed a change in the political course aimed at strengthening the democratic process and achieving real power for the people based on the organized participation of the workers at all levels of economic, political and social affairs.

The labor organ has released an 18-point document discussing the country's situation and the needs of all Bolivian workers. The declaration was drawn up based on the results of the COB general meeting held in La Paz in March.

The COB also says there is a need to establish a sliding minimum wage scale in Bolivia because it is the only way to maintain a relationship between wages and prices. The document says that an active wage policy will strengthen the domestic demand for national products and will reactivate industry, commerce and handicraft production.

The document also reaffirms the COB's opposition to the demands of the IMF because they violate the sovereignty of the state and the administration of our country's economy and finances. It proposes the suspension of gold production concessions granted in 1981 and that these concessions be transferred to the Mining Corporation of Bolivia, Comibol. In this regard, the document points out that the contracts with South American Planters must be canceled and that Comibol must take back the land it rented to private companies.

Regarding the import of raw materials, inputs and machinery by state enterprises, the document points out that the government must carry out direct operations and eliminate middlemen. The COB also wants the contracts between the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits, YPFB, and foreign companies such as Tesoro Petroleum Oil and Occidental Petroleum Company to be cancelled. The state, through the YPFB, must be the only organization in charge of production and marketing of its energy production in accordance with the hydrocarbons law and the investment law.

Regarding the foreign debt, the COB wants the government to postpone its payments until the country is in a condition to fulfill its obligations. The document also says that the costs which prevailed for Comibol, cooperatives and subsidiaries in October 1972 [as heard] should be maintained.

The document also requests the nationalization of the financial system, the establishment of a state insurance organization and the adoption of other related measures. The COB also says that a policy supporting state banks for the development of industrial, agriculture and livestock activity through loans for industry and handicraft production should be implemented. It also supports measures to lower bank interest rates for the productive sector and supports COB participation in the Exchange Policy Commission. It also proposes the elimination of the Bolivian Central Bank regulation introducing a policy based on the dollar.

Regarding income for personal services [words indistinct], the COB requests the replacement of the old and obsolete system that has been used for the last 50 years and which has become an instrument encouraging tax evasion, thus unjustly favoring those who have larger incomes. It points out that it is necessary to establish a new and clear system protecting state revenues and satisfying taxpayers to a point suitable to both parties.

The document proposes the reactivation of the construction sector as a measure to fight unemployment. It indicates that this sector can be reactivated through expenditures by the national treasury for the popular sectors and through the reduction in interest rates on credit for cooperative projects. It also demands the strengthening and stimulation of credits for housing among the labor sectors and the development of handicraft cooperatives in order to give an impulse to this important sector.

The document also says that the agrarian program proposed by the Bolivian Single Peasant Workers Confederation should be implemented and that the decrees regarding the annulment of land titles approved during the dictatorial regimes of Hugo Banzer and Luis Garcia Meza be reviewed in order to validate the land titles of peasants and annul the titles of those who greatly benefited from those dictatorships.

The COB document also refers to speculation, pointing out that this must be severely punished and that those economic groups which make large profits in times of crisis should be eliminated. It says that speculation must be done away with by bringing importers' and producers' costs and prices under control. The document also rejects the current price increase for fuels, flour and electricity.

In conclusion, the document released by the COB this morning says that those who mismanaged the national economy, who committed crimes and violated human rights during the military regimes must be punished.

VENTURINI VISITS SURINAME ON 'WORK VISIT'

PY180321 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Apr 83 p 7

[By Feichas Martins and Carlos Conde]

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Planalto Palace spokesman Carlos Atila yesterday announced in an official note that General Danilo Venturini, special minister for land affairs and secretary general of the National Security Council, has been in Suriname since last Friday on "a work visit." While the official note states that Minister Venturini's visit is designed "to promote bilateral relations between Brazil and Suriname," military sources noted that he will emphasize the Brazilian Government's outright opposition to the idea of renegotiating border limits with Venezuela and to its utilization of Brazilian territory to launch any military operation against Guyana in relation to their dispute over the Essequibo region. The export of Brazilian arms to Suriname is another issue which could be discussed.

Repeated Venezuelan consultations through diplomatic channels have provoked concern within the Brazilian Government, which also perceived factors which could bring political destabilization in those neighboring countries such as the growing presence of Cuban and Soviet experts involved in guerrilla activities and in other actions designed to cause social unrest in Suriname and Guyana.

Venezuela's insistent inquiries about using Brazilian territory alerted the Brazilian authorities to the risk of that region becoming an area of conflict. Thus, the decision was made to create a "rapid deployment" military force, which consists of paratroops, infantry and armored cavalry brigades, motorized infantry brigades, Marines and special Air Force groups. In a recent decision, the Army minister created a 250-man mechanized cavalry troop in Boa Vista to strengthen the security system in that area. The troop has 90 mm cannons.

Military sources also attribute the Venezuelan persistence in calling for changes in the current border demarcations to "British pressure." The sources said: "The current demarcations are final because they were established through an agreement." The following is the official note released by Planalto Palace on Minister Venturini's visit:

"Minister Danilo Venturini arrived yesterday, 15 April, in Paramaribo as President Joao Figueiredo's personal representative on a work visit designed to examine and to promote bilateral relations between Brazil and Suriname. "Today, 16 April, Minister Venturini will follow 'a program of contacts' the details of which will be disclosed later.

"This program began yesterday, 15 April, when he visited President Ramdat-misier and will include talks with Armed Forces Commander in Chief Daysi Bouterse."

Communique Released

PY200255 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Apr 83 p 5

[Communique released by Brazilian Government in Brasilia on 18 April on official 15-17 April visit to Suriname by Brigadier General Venturini, special minister for land related issues.]

[Text] "The Presidential Press and Information Secretariat hereby reports that Minister Danilo Venturini made an official visit to Suriname from 15 to 17 April as President Joao Figueiredo's personal representative.

Minister Venturini paid a courtesy call on the president of Suriname, His Excellency Mr Ramdat-Misier, and later met with Foreign Affairs Minister Errol Alibux. Issues of common interest were discussed at this meeting.

"Minister Venturini held useful talks with Lieutenant Colonel Daysi Bouterse, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and chairman of the National Political Council.

"Measures were discussed at these meetings which were designed to strengthen relations between Brazil and Suriname within the framework of high-level contacts. The significance of these contacts was reflected in the visit Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro made to Paramaribo in January 1982 and in the visits Colonel Bouterse and Minister Harvey Naarendorp made to Brazil in September 1982 and February 1983 respectively.

"During their talks, Minister Venturini and Colonel Bouterse expressed their countries' desire to preserve South America from the consequences of confrontations which are foreign to the area.

"They also expressed their conviction that Suriname and Brazil will build and will follow roads leading to peace and progress in keeping with the desires of their peoples.

"In keeping with this spirit, they agree on furthering and strengthening cooperation between the two countries and to markedly emphasize it in various fields in accordance with priorities which will be mutually agreed upon."

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO CRITICIZES WEAK GOVERNORS

PY181500 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Speaking on television about the disturbances that took place in Sao Paulo 2 weeks ago, President Joao Baptista Figueiredo condemned weak and timid governors. He added that the people will end up paying for this timidity and weakness.

As president of the republic, he said, my duty is to demand from all governors of the nation a responsible and firm government. The president also justified the new decree on salary policy, and explained that his objective was to guarantee job opportunities for the unemployed.

He noted that countries that purchase Brazilian products have closed their markets and that the international banks have reduced the rate on loans. He added that since enterprises have to reduce the cost of their products, they have to lay off workers since they are unable to cope with the burden of salaries. With this decree, however, we are gaining precious time in the cost of production. It is a necessary sacrifice, Figueiredo concluded.

PROTEST TO LIBYA ON ARMS SHIPMENTS TO NICARAGUA

PY192242 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] The Brazilian Government is lodging a formal protest with the Libyan Government because it considers that the Libyan Government did not act in good faith when it declared that the cargo of its four planes now staying in Brazil consisted of medicines when in fact the cargo consisted of weapons and explosives intended for Nicaragua, Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas reported today.

The Brazilian Government's formal protest will be lodged with the charge d'affaires of the Jamahiriyah People's Bureau in Brasilia and with the Jamahiriyah Foreign Ministry in Tripoli through Brazilian Ambassador Carlos Lobo.

Libyan Planes Ordered Home

PY192356 Paris AFP in Spanish 2332 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Brasilia, 19 Apr (AFP) -- The Brazilian Government has ordered four Libyan planes loaded with arms which have been in Brazilian airports since last weekend to return to their bases with their cargo and decided to lodge a formal protest with the Libyan Government for having stated that the planes were carrying medicines, it was officially reported here today. According to the Brazilian Foreign Ministry spokesman, three Libyan planes are at Manaus airport and the fourth one is at Recife airport.

DAILY REPORTS ON MILITARY BUILDUP ON BORDER

PY191702 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 18 Apr 83 p 8

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Aeronautics Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos reported yesterday that two air bases will be created soon: one in the State of Rondonia and another in the territory of Roraima. This is part of a government plan to strengthen militarily the Brazilian borders. Although the minister denied reports of military reinforcement in the northern region of the country due to the communist infiltrations in Suriname, military sources reported yesterday that on Wednesday four Marine squads were transferred from Rio de Janeiro to the State of Para, reportedly for training and reconnaissance in the area. According to the same sources, all these battalions are experts in forest combat.

One source claimed that the operation to strengthen the Brazilian border with Suriname began in 1980. In January 1983, the Army Ministry created in Boa Vista a mechanized cavalry squadron with 250 men, strengthening the military defense plan in that area. Acting Suriname Foreign Minister Fong Poen stated on Wednesday in Brasilia: If it were true that we are surrendering to the Soviets, I would not be here now. I would be seeking help from CEMA in Moscow. The Cuban Embassy was open in Paramaribo in 1981.

Suriname needs help from Brazil for its development, Lt Colonel Daysi Bouterse has stated. He is the commander in chief of the Armed Forces and chairman of the Suriname National Political Council. He made this statement when he was in Brasilia in September 1982. He visited weapons industries in Sao Jose dos Campos, Sao Paulo and Itajuba, Minas Gerais. A military source admitted Suriname's possible interest in Brazilian weapons, although no negotiation was confirmed on that occasion. In Itajuba, the ordinance industry -- IMBEL -- has a factory of portable weapons whose production line includes the light automatic rifle, FAL.

The Brazilian Government has expressed concern over various border conflicts. Although the aeronautics minister cited only two examples, there are conflicts between Suriname and Guyana, and since Rondonia is included in the military reinforcement plan of the borders, there is also the old Bolivian desire to recover an outlet to the sea which was lost during the war of the Pacific between 1879 and 1883, when it had to fight against Chile and Peru. [sentence as published]

The most recent problem, however, is that of the Essequibo: 180,000 square kilometers, two thirds of Guyana's current territory, claimed by Venezuela since 1899. This region is rich in petroleum, aluminum ore, and perhaps uranium and cobalt, in addition to gold. It also borders with Brazil along the territory of Roraima and the State of Amazonas, with access to the Trombetas River. Guyana has been receiving large amounts of aid from Cuba since 1974 when President Fidel Castro visited Georgetown, especially in the technical, agricultural and education fields, and also for the acquisition of primary technology.

The magazine VEJA revealed recently in its "Radar" section that General Euclydes Figueiredo, brother of President Figueiredo and military commander of the Amazonas, was consulted twice by Venezuelan authorities about the possibility of a Brazilian cooperation to allow Venezuelan troops to cross Brazilian territory on their way to the region of Essequibo. According to VEJA, the general only smiled on both occasions.

On 17 April 1982, on closing the 3d annual meeting of the Brazilian International Relations Council held in Rio de Janeiro, Rear Admiral Mario Cesar Flores, commander of the naval transport force, stated that "the possibility of British intervention in a conflict between Venezuela and Guyana worries Brazil more than the Malvinas crisis (the invasion of the islands by the Argentines took place on 2 April)."

Northern RDF Denied

PY191143 Paris AFP in Spanish 0220 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Brasilia, 18 Apr (AFP) -- Gen Waldir Vasconcelos, chief of the Brazilian Armed Forces General Staff, denied here today press reports that Brazil has strengthened its military forces at the northern border with a 20,000-man rapid deployment force. The report, which was established last Sunday by the newspaper O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, indicated that this force could operate outside the continent.

General Vasconcelos said that the problems existing at the border between Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guyana are not a threat to Brazil.

After stating that there was no plan for creating such a force, General Vasconcelos said that the Brazilian Armed Forces' goal is to strengthen the country's military power to face any foreign threat. Finally, he said that the Soviet-Cuban action which has been spreading through the Caribbean and Latin America is a threat to the security of the Western Hemisphere.

GOVERNMENT SELLS COMBAT AIRCRAFT TO ARGENTINA

PY191820 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 18 Apr 83 p 8

[By Milton F. da Rocha Filho]

[Text] Sao Paulo -- The Brazilian Government has sold to Argentina 12 Xavante aircraft which are jet powered combat planes manufactured by the Brazilian Aeronautics Enterprise (Embraer). The transaction amounts to nearly $60 million (26. 1 billion cruzeiros) and it is the first one concluded with that country after the Falklands (Malvinas) conflict. Argentine pilots are already being trained in the same aircraft which were purchased from Brazil.

A source which was tapped by correspondent Luiz Claudio Latge disclosed that two Argentine pilots are already testing the Xavante in Brazil, and that a third plane was made available last Saturday. The Xavantes will fill a gap by flying patrol missions along Argentine coastlines.

Parked on the Embraer yard in Sao Jose dos Campos, the planes are ready to be incorporated into the Argentine Air Force immediately. These Xavantes were recently manufactured by Embraer, and negotiations for the sale of these aircraft were recently held with Ecuador. The actual sale in Ecuador did not materialize because of diplomatic questions resulting from a Peruvian denunciation that the planes would be a destabilizing factor in the relations between those two countries.

This transaction with Argentina was held in secrecy until last Saturday night when reliable sources in the area of arms manufacture revealed that the sale had been made under a government-to-government arrangement which was unknown to Embraer. This company was notified of it only when the pilots to be trained were about to arrive in the country, and it is providing all the assistance necessary at the present stage of training.

Following directives from the Brazilian Air Force [FAB], the Embraer has implemented a program of utilizing Brazilian made components in the manufacture of the Xavante model. More than 1,332 components and more than 1.3 million items have already been supplied by the national industry. The Aeronautic Material Plant in Recife (Pernambuco State) -- Pemarif -- has also contributed its quota of Brazilian made components for the Xavante model.

With the purchase of this model, Argentina will also ensure the supply of spare parts it needs. Up until now nearly 200 Xavante units have been manufactured in Brazil, most of them for the Brazilian Air Force and only some two dozen for export.

Embraer stopped manufacturing the Xavante model last year, and it is preparing to test the first AMX prototype about the middle of next year, before it goes into production in 1987. The AMX is a modern combat aircraft which will be jointly produced with the Italian Airmacchi Company.

For the FAB, Embraer is now manufacturing the Tucano model (EMB-312) which is a turboprop training plane, and the Bandeirante Patrol. Although the manufacture of the Xavante model has been stopped, repairs and spare parts are guaranteed by the Aeronautic Material Plant and Embraer.

The Xavante model (EMB-3266B) is a jet powered plane for training, tactical support and patrol which has been manufactured by Embraer for 10 years under license of Macchi Aeronautic Company of Varese, Italy. Up until the end of last year, 182 units have been manufactured in Brazil, according to the yearbook "Jane's All the World's Aircraft." The Plane is a two-seater, equipped with two Rolls Royce turbines, and it can fly as fast as 0.8 mach (840 km per hour).

Its weapons may vary, and its includes six 250 lb (114 kilograms) bombs, two 500 lb (227 kilograms) bombs, and two 7.62 mm cannons. It may carry six missile launchers, with from 7 to 36 air to land missiles each. For observation missions, it may carry photographic equipment on the upper side of its wings. According to a booklet put out by Embraer, this model is used by the air forces of 13 countries and 600 units have been manufactured in the world so far.

TWO SUSPECTED TERRORISTS KILLED IN SHOOTOUT

PY192219 Paris AFP in Spanish 1454 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Santiago, 19 Apr (AFP) -- Two suspected terrorists were killed today during a shootout in the Nunoa neighborhood of Santiago, the Chilean police reported. The dead were indentified as Hugo Escobar Martinez and Juan Carlos Vargas Moraga.

The semiofficial news agency ORBE reported that the persons killed were subversive elements who were detected as they apparently were about to hold up a bank branch office. Some witnesses said that the suspected terrorists took shelter in a nearby residence and from there exchanged gunfire with personnel of the National Intelligence Center (CNI), the state secret service.

According to information provided by an official source, the two individuals carried handguns and hand grenades. Their house was later searched and a large number of arms and pamphlets opposing the military government of President Augusto Pinochet was found, according to a radio report.

BOMB EXPLOSION KILLS EXTREMIST, INJURES ANOTHER

PY170032 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] One extremist was killed and another seriously injured when the bomb they were placing on the Santiago-Cartagena railroad line exploded.

According to security forces, the incident took place at the (?Campusano) junction near Talagante.

The extremists are reportedly members of a terrorist commando group that 2 days ago detonated several dynamite charges along the railroad line linking Santiago and Valparaiso.

(Pedro Martin Martinez), 32, was killed instantly when the bomb went off accidently, while (Juan Pacheco Vargas), 36, was seriously injured.

CNI [National Intelligence Center] personnel are trying to establish whether these persons have been properly identified since the majority of extremists carry false identification papers.

Other dynamite charges went off in the last few hours at km 37 and km 54 on the Cartagena-Santiago railroad line, while a bomb placed at the [word indistinct], (Lo Errazuriz) was detonated by CNI officers.

Moreover, the national railroad company reported that the service between Santiago and the coast has been normalized as of this afternoon since the damage caused by the attacks has been repaired.

It has been reported that the injured extremist has been hospitalized in the intensive care unit of a Santiago hospital.

SECURITY FORCES KILL SEVEN IN AYACUCHO CLASHES

PY170052 Paris AFP in Spanish 2115 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Ayacucho, Peru, 15 Apr (AFP) -- Military officials reported today in Lima that Peruvian forces killed seven terrorists on Thursday during clashes that took place in Cangallo Province of Ayacucho Department.

The officials added that the forces confiscated arms, ammunition and explosives from the terrorists who were members of the Maoist Shining Path movement.

Moreover, they reported that the extremists had killed two school principals and an old man. The killings took place in three provinces located in the area where police killed 69 terrorists last week.

HEALTH WORKERS BEGIN GENERAL STRIKE FOR WAGES

PY191900 Paris AFP in Spanish 1942 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Lima, 18 Apr (AFP) -- The 55,000 Peruvian state health workers began an indefinite general strike this morning demanding a 30 percent increase in their wages.

The leaders of the Unified Workers Federation of the Health Ministry stated that they are also demanding the indefinite appointment of contract personnel, that duty hours in hospitals be paid and that their payroll be readjusted.

They concluded by saying that all their 200 bases have adhered to the strike. These bases include hospitals, medical centers, cafeterias and other institutions in this sector.

The health officials called the strike hasty, and explained that Congress has just resumed sessions and that it must approve a law to improve the situation of these workers.

ECONOMY MINISTER PRESENTS REPORTS TO SENATE

PY182208 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] The event of the week was the speech delivered by Economy Minister Rodriguez Pastor to the Senate, a speech which was praised for its clarity and courage.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] From the economic viewpoint, 1983 is one of the most difficult Peru has experienced. The situation of the Peruvian economy is testing our ability to react, our spirit to fight and our willingness to succeed, attributes which I have never doubted people have because the Peruvian community has always been able to respond with decisiveness and a sense of sacrifice to the great challenge of destiny. We must confront with the unyielding firmness required by the current circumstances the problems derived from accelerated inflation, the imbalance of the external sector, the recession of productive and commercial activities and, as if all of this were not enough, the enormous material damage being caused by weather conditions. [end recording]

TENSION RISES BETWEEN ARMED FORCES, POLITICIANS

PY141302 Paris AFP in Spanish 1514 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] It was learned today from well informed sources that an interparty dialogue, which will precede the negotiations with the Armed Forces aimed at returning Uruguay to a state of law, has been started by the three officially recognized political parties.

Authorities of the traditional Colorado and Blanco Parties and of the Catholic leaning Civic Union are holding informal talks in order to establish a uniform criteria regarding the problems that Uruguay must face in the near future.

The talks include topics that will be the object of debate with members of the Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission (COMASPO) -- especially a possible constitutional reform -- when the dialogue is resumed at the end of this month.

Although General Julio Rapela, who is COMASPO's president and commander of the 1st Army Division, considers the interparty meetings positive, because they will simplify the upcoming negotiations between the politicians who do not agree due to recent statements made by Rapela himself.

His charges that the Colorado Party convention was using certain methods in the best of communist style, because the Colorado Party had criticized and attacked everything that the government has done, continued today to provoke reaction in political circles, which agreed in indicating that there is a cooling of the atmosphere that could even stop the negotiations before they have started.

For Blanco Party Leader Pablo Garcia Pintos, this type of statement marks a hardening of the line within the Armed Forces, which in turn respond to a hardening of the proposals of the political parties. This drift in relations between politicians and the Armed Forces will unavoidable lead to the collapse of the current political framework if no outlet is found.

Garcia Pintos said: "If this situation continues there could be an interruption of the schedule that has been established for an outlet toward democracy."

INTERPARTY DIALOGUE CORDIAL, SAYS POLITICIAN

PY151845 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Excerpt] (Julio Daberer), member of the Civic Union national board, has said that the interparty dialogue has been cordial and that initially there are points of agreement between the Colorado, Blanco and Civic Union parties.

The political leader told El Espectador this afternoon that the Civic Union Montevideo Department convention will hold its meeting on 7 May to elect department board members. Regarding the meetings of the representatives from the three parties he said:

[Begin (Deberer) recording] We are holding regular meetings so as to exchange views regarding the dialogue that political parties will hold the Armed Forces.

PAPER ANALYZES IMPLICATIONS OF SHULTZ VISIT

PA182218 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 16 Apr 83 p 5

[Editorial: "Visit"]

[Text] On the eve of his trip to Mexico, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz acknowledged the differences existing between the two countries on a particularly difficult topic -- Central America -- because of the two governments' conflicting points of view. These differences, Shultz said, were more acute during the past administration, but now with the De la Madrid administration, there could be ties of cooperation regarding this problem.

It seems as if the secretary of state in particular, and the Reagan administration in general, do not know or have forgotten the characteristics of the institutions that govern Mexico, as well as the traditional principles of the Mexico's foreign policy. Shultz' suggestions reveal the false assumption that our principles change with the change of regime every 6 years.

This distortion of our reality by Washington's ruling circles is the result of a mixture of negligence and arrogance that disregards the origins as well as the subsequent development of our institutional body, which resulted from the 1910 revolutionary struggle. It was at that time that the principles of our foreign policy took shape, later to be enriched by distinguished Mexican international specialists.

The subject of Central America will certainly be crucial in the talks that the Mexican authorities and the U.S. official will hold. Our country will reiterate the unchanging aspects that have always governed its foreign relations. Among these there are three that stand out as very relevant to the current conflict on the isthmus: the right to self determination, nonintervention in the internal affairs of other states and the peaceful solution of conflicts. What arguments could Reagan's envoy use to counter these principles? Only the same unfounded theories of the alleged responsibility of the socialist countries in the regional conflict, which conveniently disregard the unjust economic structures to which these peoples have been subjected for centuries, often as a result of U.S. intervention. As has been repeated insistently, the radicalization of Central America could be avoided if the U.S. authorities had better historical vision and, instead of supporting unpopular dictatorships, were more understanding toward those trying to correct the current unjust situation.

Shultz is certain to defend the strategy that the U.S. has prepared for the area, which includes support for democracy, economic reforms and respect for human rights. It would be good if these goals were realized; however, there is evidence that they will not be, evidence such as the accusations of genocide made in several international forums against some Central American regimes.

In the face of this attitude, Mexico's position and that of other democratic countries on the continent take on great significance; especially now, when the conflict seems doomed to become regionalized which seems to be one of the objectives of the foreign interests at work in the area.

SEPULVEDA DEPARTS FOR MEETING IN PANAMA

FL200245 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0202 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor this afternoon traveled to Panama to meet with the foreign ministers of Colombia, Panama and Venezuela, members of the Contadora group.

The foreign ministers will continue the consultations aimed at alleviating the Central American conflict and are scheduled to meet with their counterparts from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Official Foreign Secretariat spokesmen reported that the schedule for the talks to be held Wednesday and Thursday will be determined in Panama.

BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO TO VISIT 28 APR

PA181947 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 16 Apr 83 p 3

[Text] Brasilia, 15 Apr (ANSA) -- "The Central American situation will be the main topic in the political talks between presidents Joao Figueiredo and Miguel de la Madrid 10 days from today in the Mexican city of Cancun.

Diplomatic sources told ANSA that the meeting of the Brazilian and Mexican chiefs of state on 28 April "may help define new actions by the two countries in Central America."

The sources suggested that to understand the Brazilian position on the Central American situation, one must remember the Brazilian president's speech during President Ronald Reagan's visit to Brasilia late last year.

In his speech, the Brazilian chief of state practically recommended that the United States cease its intervention in the area. He voiced the need to open the way for Venezuela, Colombia and Mexico, "three countries known for their valuable political experience and their traditional presence in the area," as most suited to pacify Central America.

According to the diplomatic sources consulted by ANSA, that position expressed last December by the Brazilian president has not essentially changed despite the increased military activities on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border and the internal strife in El Salvador.

Members of the Brazilian Government, however, have not discarded the idea of playing a more decisive role in Central American affairs. "We are accustomed to countries wanting to attribute roles to Brazil," as if international politics were a simple "distribution of tasks."

During a Security Council meeting, Ambassador Carlos Bueno said in general terms that the Central American problem has structural causes; that it is not purely an ideologic confrontation.

Brazilian diplomatic spokesman Bernardo Pericas also admitted the existence of "foreign encouragement" in Nicaragua and El Salvador, but gave no indication that the presence of Brazilian diplomacy would be more effective in establishing negotiations between the conflicting groups.

The Brazilian Government certainly will define a new line of action in the face of this problem following the meeting between Figueiredo and De la Madrid, because this time the Brazilian diplomats have expressed a greater interest "in listening to rather than saying" what must be done in Central America.

SPAIN'S MORAN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE, DEPARTS

FL181952 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2048 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran today denied his country would join NATO and expressed opposition to U.S. interference in Central America.

Concluding a 4-day official visit to Mexico, Moran told a press conference that Spain is willing to mediate for peace in Central America if so requested by countries of the region.

Regarding the latest diplomatic friction between Great Britain and Spain over the deployment of a British fleet around the Rock of Gibralter, Moran said Spain would initiate diplomatic efforts for sovereignty over the Mediterranean point-of-entry.

He stressed that the Spanish Congress is at this time studying the mechanisms to negotiate a petition to dismantle the five U.S. military bases on the peninsula.

Similarly, regarding Spain's eventual entry in NATO, Moran said all sectors of Spain are being consulted to determine the socialist government's decision.

Fernando Moran departed for Bogota, Colombia, a country which is part of the Contadora Group which has been exerting diplomatic efforts to relax tensions in Central America.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT EXPANDS ON PROTEST NOTE TO NICARAGUA

PA200227 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0043 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] San Jose, 19 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Costa Rica today sent another protest note to the Sandinist government, expanding on the one of 15 April regarding the serious incidents that day in Costa Rican waters off A Barra del Colorado. The expansion contains the testimony given to the authorities by the crew of the boats intercepted by Nicaraguan militiamen. The boats are owned by the Costa Rican enterprise Isla de Pesca, which has its base of operations in La Barra del Colorado. The Foreign Ministry included in the new protest the report supplied by the authorities of the region, which "fully confirms that the boats captured by the Nicaraguan patrol boats were engaged in recreational fishing activities at the mouth of the Colorado River." This place is 5 km from the coast and more than 20 km from the borderline, "and is therefore in Costa Rican territorial waters."

The Costa Rican Government deplores the new violation of its territorial waters "less than 20 hours after the assurances given by Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, about respecting the existing treaties between the two countries. In the interest of good relations," Ekhard Peter, acting Costa Rican foreign minister, asks the Managua government for a response "that will contain the explanations and guarantees demanded" in the 15 April protest note.

VOLIO UNDERGOES SUCCESSFUL HEART SURGERY

PA192246 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1951 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] San Jose, 19 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Foreign Minister Fernando Volio has undergone a successful 5 and 1/2 hour heart operation, according to the first medical report issued today. A team of doctors headed by Longino Soto Pacheco, the foreign minister's personal physician, conducted a cleanup of his coronary arteries, ridding him of pericarditis, and performed a revascularization of the miocardium. Doctor Soto anticipated no complications in view of the successful operation. Fernando Volio will be able to leave the hospital in 10 days, but will remain inactive for 3 more weeks. The foreign minister went in for a routine medical checkup on 12 April. The tests, however, revealed heart disorders that needed immediate attention. Deputy Foreign Minister Ekhard Peter is acting foreign minister during his absence, while Alvar Antillon, Foreign Ministry director, fills in for Peter as deputy foreign minister.

EL SALVADOR

NEW DEFENSE MINISTER PROMISES 'LOTS OF CHANGES'

PA192352 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2317 GMT 19 Apr 83

[By Robert Block]

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 19 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Gen Eugenio Vides Casanova, who has been appointed the new defense minister of El Salvador, promised today that there will be "lots of changes" in the handling of the war against the leftwing subversives, but indicated that the struggle will be prolonged.

Vides Casanova was named yesterday to replace Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, who resigned the post after weeks of increasing pressure from both U.S. officials and officers of the Salvadoran Army, which is made up of 24,000 troops and has been sustaining serious setbacks in its struggle against the rebels.

Ranking military sources said that Vides Casanova planned to make an important personnel reshuffle, including the reinstatement of Gen Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, who was formerly responsible for the daily coordination of operations against the FMLN guerrillas. That position existed up until last June, when it was abolished in the wake of an apparent political dispute between Garcia and Gutierrez.

FMLN-FDR LEADER COMMENTS ON GARCIA RESIGNATION

PA191519 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] San Salvador -- Dr (Oscar Acevedo), member of the FMLN-FDR political-diplomatic commission, has described the appointment of Gen Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova as defense minister in El Salvador as the consolidation of the Fascists among the armed forces leadership.

The fascists within the army have achieved their goal of removing Garcia, who became the scapegoat for the army's defeats in the face of the advances of the people's revolutionary war, the FMLN-FDR leader said. He explained that the Yankee embassy in El Salvador has endorsed Vides Casanova's appointment despite his involvement as intellectual authors of the December 1980 murder of the four U.S. nuns. He added: Garcia's removal will not stop the army's defeats at the hands of our forces.

The FMLN-FDR leader said finally that those appointing Vides Casanova defense minister will blame him for the future defeats, which will be even worse than those faced in the past by Garcia.

Havana Comments

PA190300 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Salvadoran military sources have reported that Provisional President Alvaro Magana has accepted the resignation of Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, and in his place has appointed Gen Eugenio Vides Casanova, who at the time of his appointment was National Guard director. Last week, Air Force chief Col Rafael Bustillo asked for the resignation of Garcia, and he stated that as of this Monday he would not take orders from Garcia as defense minister.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER ON CONTADORA GROUP TALKS

PA192001 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] In Guatemala City, Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola has spoken about the government's intention to cooperate in achieving detente between Honduras and Nicaragua: [Begin Castillo recording] Guatemala's proposal is firm and constant. The moment Guatemala or the Guatemalan people can be of any assistance in coordinating actions in the search for peace as well as continental and Central American security, we will be present.

We have said this at the OAS, at the Security Council and, recently, directly. We have made no official offer to the five Central American countries since such offers are made after feeling out a situation. The offer has been made and almost all have said they see nothing wrong; on the contrary, they would come. However, before making this official we must be sure in order not to have a negative response that sometimes can be even offensive.

The truth is that here we had the good offices of four countries: Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico and Panama. These countries are honorable witnesses, kind mediators, that could lead the five Central American states into holding a meeting. [end recording]

Castillo Arriola also confirmed that tomorrow, Tuesday, he will go to Panama to participate in a Central American foreign ministers meeting with the so-called Contadora Group, just as this news program reported last night. [Begin Castillo recording] Tomorrow I am going to Panama. The Central American foreign ministers will meet to exchange ideas, to coordinate actions and to understand the objective of those four countries because so far they have made separate consultations and a brief trip through the area, which they have said has been very fruitful, but we have not established communications among ourselves.

I think that after tomorrow's meeting among the Central American foreign ministers, the nine ministers will meet and our position will be that if the consultations are to continue, a program should be designed. Guatemala believes that there have been enough consultations and that a formal dialogue aimed at solving the problems which affect peace and happiness in Central America is more important. [end recording]

HAVANA: GUERRILLAS CLASH WITH ARMY NEAR PATZUN

PA190422 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity guerrilla units caused an undisclosed number of casualties to the Guatemalan genocidal Army and also damaged an Air Force helicopter during an operation carried out in Patzun, Chmaltenango Department. The operation, carried out on 15 April, started with the ambush of an enemy patrol, in which three soldiers were killed and three wounded. Afterwards, the guerrillas attacked the troops sent as reinforcements, and they also hit one of the three helicopters that was supporting the army troops.

Hours later, when the genocidal troops could not advance on the rebel positions, the air force unleashed criminal air raids on the villages in the zone, which resulted in a high number of casualties among the defenseless civilian population.

GUERRILLA AMBUSH IN EL PETEN KILLS 11 SOLDIERS

PA200124 Paris AFP in Spanish 0043 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 19 Apr (AFP) -- One officer and 10 soldiers were killed today in a guerrilla ambush in the deparrment of El Peten in the northern part of the country, it was officially reported. Although a military bulletin has not been issued, military sources told AFP that the armed clash took place near Las Palmas cooperative in the Department of La Libertad.

According to the source, the insurgents ambushed a military patrol with the previously mentioned results. It is not known if the guerrillas sustained any casualties or how many soldiers were wounded.

GUERRILLA LEADERS SAY MOVEMENT CRUSHED IN NORTH

PA191755 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Two Guatemalan guerrilla leaders admitted in Mexico that the army has crushed their 33-year-old movement in the north. They warned however, that their forces will continue their violent struggle. The two leaders said during an interview in Mexico that the army's firm counterinsurgency campaign had caused the defeat. The policy to break up the rebels, the policy implemented against the guerrillas by the Guatemalan regime, backed by the United States, has weakened the movement's political organization, (Raul Solorzano), member of the Guatemalan Labor Party's [PGT] directorate, explained. This, however, does not mean that we will forsake our violent struggle. We are carrying out military operations, (Mario Lopez), another PGT leader added. According to (Lopez), the movement has entered a phase of self-criticism to review its past mistakes and plan a new strategy to take the offensive.

HONDURUS

NEW SANDINIST ATTACK ON FISHING BOAT PROTESTED

PA200039 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2314 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] The Honduran Foreign Affairs Secretariat today lodged a protest to the Nicaraguan Government regarding another attack carried out today by a Sandinist patrol boat on a Honduran fishing boat in Honduran territorial waters in the Atlantic Ocean. The protest note addressed to the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister says: I have the honor to address Your Excellency to report that at 1100 today a Honduran fishing boat sailing in Honduran territorial waters was chased and harassed by a Sandinist People's Army [EPS] patrol boat. In view of the situation, two Honduran Government patrol boats went to the aid of the Honduran fishing boat. Next, four more EPS patrol boats appeared, which started an armed clash in Honduran territorial waters along the coordinates longitude 82 degrees, 40 minutes, 00 seconds north, latitude 15 degrees, 10 minutes, 00 seconds in the Atlantic Ocean [coordinates as heard].

PROTEST NOTE TO NICARAGUA ON 17 APR INCIDENT

PA200255 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 19 Apr 83 p 3

[Diplomatic note sent by Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, dated 18 April]

[Text] Note No 152-DA Tegucigalpa, D.C., 18 April 1983

Dear Mr Minister: I am honored to address Your Excellency to inform you of the following incident: At 0500 yesterday, 17 April, a 65-ft Nicaraguan patrol boat -- a Dabur craft made in Israel registered as P-220 -- suddenly appeared while two light 25-ft boats assigned to Amapala Naval Base were sailing at 13 degrees, 8 minutes, 7 seconds north latitude; and 87 degrees, 32 minutes and 30 seconds west latitude [as heard] in the Gulf of Fonseca.

This Nicaraguan boat headed for Honduran territory and began firing at the Honduran boats which, in view of the unjustified attack, were forced to repel it in an action that lasted 10 minutes. Fortunately, there were no damages or casualties in the Honduran boat.

In view of this incident, which is an aggression rather than a provocation, my government once more lodges a strong protest to the Nicaraguan Government and feels compelled to reiterate that, if by an unfortunate circumstance these incidents happen again, we will repel each one of them exercising our right to legitimate defense.

Your Excellency must be aware of the legal difference between this attack by members of the Nicaraguan Navy against Honduran naval boats and the warlike actions which, for example, are denounced by your Foreign Ministry in Note No 046 of 8 April, and are carried out by Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary forces in Nicaraguan territory but allegedly launched from Honduras.

My government rejects this effort to blame it for all armed confrontations occurring in Nicaragua, whether in the interior or in areas close to the border between our two countries, because it has never participated nor will it participate in them directly or indirectly.

I reiterate my call for calm and good sense, and ask Your Excellency to accept my highest and distinguished consideration. [Signed] Edgardo Paz Barnica, foreign secretary

SANDINISTS GIVE GUERRILLA TRAINING TO YOUTHS

PA191311 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Apr 83 p 10

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- It was recently revealed that at least 250 Honduran youths are being trained as guerrillas at "specialized schools" in Nicaragua.

The guerrilla warfare training is being organized by Cuban experts, with the advice of Soviet agents and the full support of the Sandinist government of Nicaragua. The youths are mainly students who have "mysteriously disappeared" from the cities of Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, La Ceiba, Olancho Department and from the southern zone. They are receiving intensive training in several garrisons that the FSLN has installed throughout Nicaragua.

According to the reports, the youths have been recruited by old members of the Honduran leftist sector, through teachers and even priests, as in the case of Gualaco and Olancho. The training of these youths is part of the destablilization campaigns that governments like Cuba are carrying out through Nicaragua against countries that have democratic systems -- more specifically, Colombia, Peru, Honduras, Costa Rica and others.

The latest recruiting reported took place in southern Honduras. People in Nacaome, San Lorenzo, Choluteca, and San Marcos de Colon reported that 30 youths "disappeared." It was later learned through relatives and friends that these youths were being trained as "soldiers" in Nicaragua. Through the training of youths, Cuba and Nicaragua are trying to bring anarchy and destruction into the country, especially by leading dozens, even hundreds, of innocent people to a sure death.

It is well known that the armed forces are fully aware of this and have taken the necessary steps to act immediately, once these Honduran youths are ordered "to join the action."

The Hondurans who are being trained were divided into cells with different instructions for each one, but with one main objective in mind: plunging this country into a bloodbath.

The leaders of these cells have a greater political and administrative responsibility; therefore, they participate in an even higher level of training. Part of this training has been received in Cuba.

According to the reports, the youths are receiving this special training somewhere in Nicaragua. They have contacted their relatives and have told them "not to worry, all is well and you will soon receive news." Others have advised their relatives or friends to "report their disappearance."

All these reports confirm what Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Sandinist government junta coordinator, recently said: "It is high time that leftist revolutionary groups in Latin America start an armed struggle against Honduras." The most specific example of this was the attack on the Honduran Embassy in Colombia and what the authorities foresaw in Caracas, Venezuela. [as published]

PAZ LEAVES FOR MINISTERS MEETING IN PANAMA

PA191556 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica today left for Panama to attend the Central American foreign ministers meeting to be held there on 20-21 April. Here is an interview with the foreign secretary before his departure. [Begin recording] [Question] What is Honduras' initiative at the meeting?

[Question] Well, it is the spirit of peace favored and promoted by the democratic constitutional government of President Roberto Suazo Cordova. As you know, Honduras, together with Costa Rica and El Salvador, has long been promoting a Central American foreign ministers meeting without exclusions. Later, the so-called Contadora Group, made up of the foreign ministers of Colombia, Venezuela, Panama and Mexico, has been making efforts to arrange such a meeting. They came to Tegucigalpa recently for that purpose and now they have called a meeting for 20-21 April in Panama to exchange views on the issues with the five Central American, foreign ministers. As you know, the Honduran position is one of peace and understanding through dialogue. Basically, we want to solve the Central American problems within a global and regional context, which involves bilateral, internal and multilateral levels.

[Question] Do the two letters published in the local newspapers indicate that the relations between Honduras and Nicaragua are now tense?

[Answer] Yes, one is the letter that Commander Daniel Ortega sent to President Suazo Cordova, refusing a regional dialogue and demanding a bilateral dialogue conforming, according to him, to the Contadora spirit. The other is Dr Suazo Cordova's answer declaring that Hondura's position favors regional and overall dialogue because the problems and conflicts affecting Central America are of an overall and regional nature. Furthermore, President Suazo Cordova tells Commander Daniel Ortega that the spirit of Contadora favors multilateral dialogue. Therefore, I see a contradiction in the Nicaraguan position because it only admits bilateral dialogue and yet Nicaragua is going to attend the Panama meeting, which in my opinion has a regional and overall nature, even though it is merely a consultative meeting which will also have bilateral aspects. Nevertheless, Honduras will reaffirm its position for a regional and overall solution with the participation of the five ministers.

[Question] What do you think of the letter former Honduran Foreign Secretary Eliseo Perez Cadalso sent to the newspapers?

[Answer] I do not wish to continue to refer to Perez Cadalso. Furthermore, in a recent statement to the press concerning some of Perez Cadalso's remarks, I invited him to appear with me on television to openly discuss Honduran foreign policy.

[Question] Why is he criticizing your administration?

[Answer] I imagine he is prejudiced. I believe, however, that in a democratic and free country, criticism should be constructive, not based on resentments.

[Question] Has Honduras already protested the two incidents of last week?

[Answer] Yes, through diplomatic channels Honduras has filed a strong protest with the Nicaraguan Government. In addition, we also informed the UN Security Council and the OAS Permanent Council of the two naval incidents provoked by the Nicaraguan Government and harmful to the Honduran territorial integrity. These incidents could have been avoided if the Nicaraguan Government had agreed to set up a provisional demilitarized area along parallel 15 in the Atlantic. The Nicaraguan Government refused to accept this and did not attend any other meeting.

[Question] Does this mean that the Nicaraguan Government does not want to speak of peace with Honduras?

[Answer] They have clearly shown their intransigence, even though they claim to be willing to dialogue. They accuse us of being intransigent; however, last year I met with Foreign Minister d'Escoto 8 or 10 times. In fact, we met recently in Buenos Aires on a television program. Now, we want a global and regional meeting to solve the Central American problems permanently and with dignity, as proposed by the Honduran democratic Government. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH COLOMBIA

PA190201 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota -- The governments of Nicaragua and Colombia have signed a new economic and commercial cooperation agreement to try and improve their bilateral relations. The full reactivation of the two countries' economic relations was discussed during Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto's visit to Bogota. The efforts for peace in Central America that the Colombian Government is making have also contributed to improving bilateral relations.

Just a few months ago, diplomatic relations between Nicaragua and Colombia were tense as result of Nicaragua's claim of sovereignty over the San Andres and Providencia islands and the Roncador, Quitasueno and Serrana Cays.

The new agreement grants mutual preferential treatment on customs duties and other privileges for the sale of the two countries' products. They also agreed to use raw materials from their countries to manufacture goods to be exported.

FIVE REBELS KILLED IN CHINANDEGA ATTACK

PA190313 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Leon -- During a news conference held this morning, guerrilla Commander David Blanco Nunez talked about operations that State Security carried out last night, when a group of counterrevolutionaries tried to blow up the Nicaraguan Energy Institute, INE, substation in Chinandega. The following communique was issued giving details of the incident: At approximately 2030 on 17 April, a group of counterrevolutionaries carried out a sabotage operation against an INE substation in Chinandega, which suffered minor damage from the impact of a LAW rocket. A State Security contingent immediately arrived at the place of the sabotage to take the required measures. Several suspects were captured 3 km from the site of the sabotage. The suspects opened fire at our men, who repelled the attack, killing five counterrevolutionaries who had in their possession two FAL rifles, two flares, three LAW rockets bearing the number TA34B78, Nicaraguan Democratic Force propaganda and ammunition. One of the suspects, who was wounded, managed to escape.

During an inspection of the area around the INE substation, the State Security units located the place from where the LAW rocket was fired. The propaganda found on the counterrevolutionaries is the same that was circulating a few days ago in Chinandega. The bodies of the counterrevolutionaries are at the Oscar Danilo Rosales Hospital morgue in Leon.

MINISTRY REPORTS 47 REBELS KILLED 15-17 APR

PA191418 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Bulletin released by the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry in Managua, no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Defense Ministry announces: 1. Troops of the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] engaged in combat with Somozist counterrevolutionary units between 15 and 17 April in Jinotega Department in the area of (San Jose de Bocay) and Wiwili.

2. During these clashes, three EPS soldiers heroically gave their lives.

3. A total of 47 Somozist counterrevolutionaries died in these clashes. Many weapons, provisions and a complete field clinic were recovered.

4. The combative capacity of the irregular battalion [word indistinct] Coro de Angeles and of the Pedra Altamirano (DPA) [Expansion unknown] -- troops, which belong to the EPS, must be stressed. Their bravery and tenacity have been crucial to defending our territory.

BORGE ON CANADA VISIT, PASTORA WHEREABOUTS

PA200121 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0028 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Managua, 19 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge said today that Eden Pastora, known as "Commander Cero," is not in Nicaragua, but that "I wish Pastora would keep his promise to come, because we are waiting for him here."

Borge was told about a photograph shown abroad of Pastora apparently in the Nicaraguan mountains. To this the interior minister responded: "I know of some photographs taken of Pastora in the backyard of his house, and in which he said that he was fighting someplace in Central America." "This," Borge explained, "was when he left the Nicaraguan revolution (1981)."

Borge said that the clashes taking place between the anti-Sandinists and Nicaraguan Army troops are "mere skirmishes." The Sandinist leader added that the commemoration of the bicentennial of Simon Bolivar's birth, a topic that he discussed in a press interview today, is more important.

Borge said that he will leave at the end of this month for Canada in response to an invitation from the universities of Toronto, Montreal, and Quebec, where he will hold lectures on the Central American conflict. He added that probably afterward he will visit the United States at the invitation of U.S. congressmen, and also in response to invitations from Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Stanford, and North Carolina universities.

It was speculated here today that the entry visa to the United States that was initially denied to Borge has finally been granted to him. Asked by another newsman about the entry visa to the United States, Borge replied that he was not fully informed on that matter. In any event, the interior minister has invited North Americans who want to hear him to travel to Canada if he is denied entry to the United States.

BORGE ON 'IMPERIALIST' PLANS FOR CENTRAL AMERICA

PA181625 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Commander Tomas Borge has said that the armed intervention by U.S. imperialist mercenaries in Nicaragua is a very important part of the Reagan administration's strategic plan to destroy the Sandinist people's revolution and crush the national liberation movement in Central America.

Borge also pointed out that the Somozist groups sent to Nicaragua by the CIA do not and cannot have the people's support. He said that so far, through great patience and moderation, Nicaragua has managed to avoid war with Honduras, a country which the U.S. administration is inciting to commit acts of aggression against Nicaragua. Borge added that the Nicaraguan people are making every effort to prevent this armed conflict, which would bring innumerable new causes of suffering to the peoples of the area.

If the Reagan administration succeeds in unleashing a war in Central America, it would end in defeat for the interventionists and the failure of the U.S. imperialist plans, Commander Borge said.

LUIS CARRION ON WAR AGAINST IMPERIALISM

PA161440 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0138 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz, Nicaraguan deputy interior minister, at event commemorating the "second anniversary of revolutionary vigilance," held at the Central American University's Carlos Morales Stadium, in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] Companeros who are presiding at this event to commemorate the second anniversary of revolutionary vigilance; dear CDS [Sandinist Defense Committees] brothers who are here representing all of the CDS members and revolutionary activists in the city of Managua:

We have come here to commemorate the second anniversary of revolutionary vigilance amid a war. Nicaragua, brothers, is at war. A criminal, imperialist and counter-revolutionary attack on our people is being staged. The spearheads and main leaders of this aggression are the usual ones: The Somozist guardsmen who when in power destroyed and bombed our neighborhoods, massacred our youth, raped our women and crushed and humiliated our people.

We, the FSLN and the Nicaraguan people, have never deceived ourselves. From the very first day of the revolution's victory, we knew that this popular victory, this victory of sovereignty and freedom in a Central American country, could not fail to provoke an arrogant and bellicose reaction from U.S. imperialism. And in fact, despite every political and diplomatic effirt, despite all of the international support given our homeland and our revolution and despite the fact that the aggressive imperialist policy has been defeated at international forums, the Reagan administration, this same administration, with complete shamelessness and in violation of U.S. laws and the feelings of all humankind, is waging an undeclared war on our people, a war that is reported widely in the U.S. media.

The U.S. Administration has armed, trained, supplied, organized and directed the former Somozist guardsmen, the former members of the Somozist security office, those benefited from the Somozist regime and those who are resentful because the people's power has struck down their privileges. The U.S. Administration has raised false hopes in them and has told them to return to Nicaragua to try to recapture those privileges. It has given them planes, helicopters, weapons, sophisticated means of communications, political support and the support of the internatinal media. This is the kind of war that we are fighting. It is no less a war and no less bloody simply because it is secret and undeclared. Our enemies, the Somozist beasts, who are imperialism's cannon fodder, are cruel, criminal and cowardly. Their methods are always the same. They are involved in attacks to destroy the work of the revolution which it has built with the people's sacrifice and for the people's benefit. They destroyed some coffee processing plants which were very busy during the recent coffee harvest. Our urban and rural workers produced the biggest harvest in our history. They destroyed rural child care centers built by the revolution so that the children of farmers and peasants could be cared for and looked after while their parents were carrying out their productive tasks and so that the children would no longer have to play in the mud simply because the peasant mother had no one with whom to leave them. The counterrevolution is trying to destroy these rural child care centers.

The counterrevolutionaries attack ambulances. Several Health Ministry ambulances have been destroyed and, on some occasions, their drivers killed. Thus, they attack the revolution's constant efforts to provide health services to the people. They attack technical workers who are helping peasants to produce better harvests. They attack construction technicians who are opening new access roads in the mountainous areas that were always neglected by Somozism. They attack and try to destroy each of the revolution's efforts and each of the achievements won at the expense of the people's sweat, heroism and devotion.

They are the same enemies of the people as before. Yesterday's Somozists are today's Somozists. Yesterday's genocidal individuals are today's genocidal individuals. And the godfather they had yesterday is their godfather today: U.S. imperialism, represented by the CIA. [applause]

Imperialism is a powerful enemy. It is an enemy with many resources. It is an enemy that is trying to promote its war policy in opposition to the opinion of all of the world's countries, despite the fact that it was defeated at the UN Security Council, at the UN General Assembly and at every international forum where this problem has been discussed. It is a contemptible enemy.

It has many resources and it is determined to use them in its effort to destroy our revolution. Our war, our true war, is against imperialism. For this reason, CDS brothers, the war that we are waging will not be an easy one. It will not be a war that will end soon. It will be a lengthy war, a prolonged war. It will be a hard war, a war demanding many sacrifices. This is a war in which the people must prepare to wage and win. They must be ready to make many new sacrifices to defend this land and sky, to defend our children and to defend our revolution. [applause]

We always tell our people the truth. Therefore, we must admit that this war will be long and difficult. Our enemies have many resources. They can continue their crimes for a period of time that we can't determine with any certainty. However, we are completely sure of one thing; we are completely confident of one thing: we are absolutely confident in the people's unshakeable determination to fight and to defend their fatherland to the final consequences. [applause, shouts]

We are absolutely certain that it doesn't matter how short, long or hard this war is, victory does and will belong to the Nicaraguan people. [applause] This is not the first war that our people have waged against the imperialists. This isn't the first time that U.S. imperialism has implemented its interventionist policy against Nicaragua.

As an Interior Ministry official, I can guarantee you that the security of the revolution lies first and foremost in your decision and that of all of the people to defend and protect your revolution. [applause]

I can tell you with all certainty, companeros, that the security of the revolution fundamentally depends upon our people's vigilance. A professional security apparatus is worthless unless it has the people on its side. Somoza's security organization had many resources. Security (?was) a strong apparatus with many members. It was the dictator's pet. It worked well. We are not going to say that from a professional standpoint, it worked badly. It worked well. Yet it was worthless in opposing the people's revolutionary advance.

U.S. imperialism has created the most monstrous intelligence apparatus, the famous and fateful CIA. It has provided the CIA with billions of dollars and with the most sophisticated equipment and techniques to prevent -- through secret war, covert operations, sabotage, destabilization and all of the illegal and dirty tactics that characterize this intelligence agency -- the advance of revolutions throughout the world.

But the money that the U.S. Government is investing in the CIA won't help to prevent the victory of new revolutions because the people are the fundamental thing. The security of the Nicaraguan state is among the strongest in the world because each Nicaraguan patriot is a combatant for the Interior Ministry and for state security. [applause] They are also combatants with the Sandinist police. [applause]

It is truly admirable, brothers, to tour this city's streets and to find at each corner, on each block, on each corner of our city, men and women from among our people -- humble, serene, brave, confident in the future, while defending the present -- even at midnight, to find workers, teachers, nurses, drivers, students, housewives and even church people at every corner, stealing hours from their sleep after their long and tiresome workdays to play a role in our revolutionary vigilance. The experience is truly impressive. What moves the over 72,000 companeros who night after night take turns protecting our city of Managua? What prompts the 143,000 who do the same throughout the country?

Our goal this year is to produce 100,000 revolutionary guards in Managua. [applause] We are sure that we will fulfill this goal. [applause] This would mean that one out of every eight persons in Managua will be engaged in revolutionary vigilance. That will be the biggest demonstration of the people's support for their revolution. That will be the most consistent expression of the people's will to defend their revolution and homeland. This year we are going to reach 100,000 revolutionary guards. We will fulfill this goal. [applause]

Last year, up until today, we went from 98,309 guards to 143,227. This means that in only a year, we increased the number of guards by 44,918 nationwide. [applause] Of all of the departments, Chinandega has been the one to organize the most, with 22,098 of them up to April 1983. [applause]

It is no surprise, then, that between 1982 and 1983 the crime rate in our country dropped by 50 percent. This figure is truly spectacular, for no other country in the world can show similar results. Only due to the dedicated work of our Sandinist police and to the collaboration and heroic efforts of each and every one of our revolutionary guards has it been possible to reduce the crime rate by 50 percent in just a year. [applause] We have also increased the number of guards throughout the country by about 50 percent.

Now that the enemy propaganda is very loud, the counterrevolutionary worms who are inside the country believe that the counterrevolution's troops are just about to victoriously enter Managua. These counterrevolutionary, reactionary and Somozist elements are beginning to gain courage. They feel supported and are beginning to act provocatively and more boldly. We must take these people down a peg. We must make them retreat to their caves, from which they should never have emerged, and this is the task of the revolutionary guards and the CDS members. [applause]

If all of a sudden a provocateur decides to go around tuned to the counterrevolutionary station and playing it very loud, what should the revolutionary guard do? Go to the police? No way. You must solve that problem yourself. [applause] Why? Because we are called Sandinist Defense Committees. This means that we are going to defend our revolution. We are not just going to be committees of informers. The people's interests must be defended by the people all of the time and everywhere. It is a duty and right that we obtained with the revolution. [applause]

Of course, we must maintain coordination with the Interior Ministry. We are obliged to improve the coordination between the Interior Ministry and the CDS so as to improve the levels of efficiency in our revolutionary vigilance and to chart more specific objectives. Sometimes we have failed only because we have not clearly explained several tasks that the revolutionary guards can perform. Thus, we must improve our coordination, our contribution and assistance to the revolutionary guards. This is a matter that concerns the Sandinist police along with the Interior Ministry's other organizations. The Sandinist police is your own specialized branch for fighting counterrevolutionaries and criminals. For this reason, we promise to make an effort to improve our coordination, cooperation and our planning of concrete tasks in revolutionary vigilance.

One of the things that we must do -- given that the enemy has developed plans and made several attempts to introduce terrorist groups that specialize in sabotage using sophisticated explosives and given that some of their targets include important people's property area enterprises and state vehicles -- is to ensure that our revolutionary vigilance pays special attention to these enterprises and vehicles. So far, they have not been able to place any of these bombs, and it is the responsibility of our revolutionary guards and CDS members to make sure that they do not do so in the future. This is a specific mission that we are giving you, the revolutionary guards. [applause]

D'ESCOTO INTERVIEWED ON MILITARY SITUATION

PY160303 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Apr 83 p 18

[Undated interview granted by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto to an unidentified correspondent, presumably in Buenos Aires]

[Excerpt] FOLHA: Honduras is accusing Nicaragua of being "occupied" by some 15,000 to 17,000 foreign advisers -- Cuban, East European, etc....

D'Escoto: If it is true that my Honduran counterpart made this statement, all I can tell him is to stay in Buenos Aires and seek treatment at a psychiatric clinic. Such a statement is not only absurd, it is sheer madness. It is in keeping with the U.S. style. A short while ago they accused us of purchasing 1,000 planes.

FOLHA: The Honduran foreign minister also claims that Nicaragua is a heavy supplier of arms to Salvadoran guerrillas.

D'Escoto: Look here, the thing is that these charges do not come from Foreign Minister Paz Barnica, who knows full well that they are not true; these charges are what the intervening nation wants Paz Barnica to make. Paz Barnica is not representing the Honduran people; he represents U.S. interests.

FOLHA: As to the invasion by Somoza supporters, are there more or less exact figures concerning the number of men that are in Nicaraguan territory?

D'Escoto: They have provided the figures themselves, perhaps exaggerating a little bit. They talk about 7,000 men. I believe that between 3,000 and 5,000 have managed to infiltrate Nicaragua, but there are more outside. It is a relatively large force which is basically operating in three regions of Nicaraguan territory. The information that I received last night (last Wednesday) from my country indicates that these forces have been completely broken up. Of the six task forces (as they call them, using the U.S. lexicon) at least four are still operating. [as published]

FOLHA: Is it true what most of the news media say, that Nicaragua allowed the invaders to penetrate its territory so deeply because it wanted to avoid a clash with the Honduran Army, which is capable of unleashing an all-out war?

D'Escoto: Obviously, we have always avoided following the invaders into Honduran territory. On the many occasions that they made sorties into Nicaragua, carried out hostile actions and returned to Honduras where they had shelter, we never entered Honduran territory. I will not tell you that we allowed the invasion to take place, but it was preferable that they should enter our territory because the best way to put an end to the problem was by annihilating them.

FOLHA: The Honduran foreign minister stressed the significance of dialogue....

D'Escoto: Meanwhile, he has always refused to hold a dialogue. He has been telling me here in Buenos Aires over and over again that the problem is not between Nicaragua and Honduras, that it is a regional problem. The only thing he does is quote the U.S. formula. The truth is that the Hondurans fear dialogue because they know that they are not masters in their own fatherland. It so happens that these 5,000 or 7,000 men, between former Somoza guardsmen and a few poor Miskito Indians, is all they have, and then they will have to throw in Honduras soldiers, who will suffer the same fate as the Somoza guardsmen.

It is obvious that direct involvement by the Honduran Army will spell war, something which we have always tried to avoid. Unfortunately, however, this possibility is more and more real due to the sell-out policy of the Honduran Government. We have been trying to hold or direct dialogue at the highest level with Honduras for 3 years, but they refuse to accept it. In this, Nicaragua is not alone. Former Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo and Venezuelan President Luis Herrara Campins delivered a letter to Honduran and Nicaraguan leaders and to U.S. President Ronald Reagan last year calling for a dialogue between the Honduran and Nicaraguan chiefs of state. Nicaragua hastened to accept the idea of a meeting, which could have taken place on 13 October 1982, but the president of Honduras said that he was very busy.

FOLHA: Does the information in the hands of the Sandinist government indicate that former junta members Alfonso Robelo and Eden Pastora are involved with the current invasion or have they chosen to keep Somoza's supporters at arms length?

D'Escoto: They do not want to appear openly linked to this invasion. However, there is only one counterrevolution and this counterrevolution is orchestrated, encouraged and armed by the United States. Eden Pastora and Robelo's connections with the CIA are internationally known. They are all dancing to the same tune. In order to preserve his prestige, Pastora does not want to be openly linked to Somoza's supporters, but they are all the same thing.

FOLHA: Then it would be impossible to resume a dialogue with Robelo like there was when he was in Nicaragua?

D'Escoto: He left Nicaragua on his own and openly joined the groups which undertook the commitment to wage an armed struggle to overthrow the Sandinist government. Thus, it is obvious that he is not interested in dialogue.

FOLHA: Does the Sandinist government maintain a dialogue with the political parties, the opposition included?

D'Escoto: Naturally. These parties have not been banned, nor did the government expel them from the country. However, it is obvious that when leaders, that is, alleged political leaders, choose armed struggle, they abandon political struggle.

FOLHA: Does the Sandinist government maintain its predisposition toward holding elections in 1985?

D'Escoto: At this point, a special commission of the Council of State is discussing the law on poliitcal parties, the preliminary step to holding elections. Not only the Sandinist, but all Nicaraguan political parties as well are participating in this debate. As to those parties which, following the advice of the United States, chose armed struggle, they have practically commited suicide.

FOLHA: Going back to the invasion, what are the steps which Nicaragua will implement right now to restore a certain amount of peace?

D'Escoto: First of all, we are the attacked, not the aggressors. Nicaragua has been invaded by the United States, which used Somoza's guardsmen. Even the U.S. news media have clearly indicated who is behind the invasion. This week's issue of TIME magazine clearly states that the leadership is exclusively in the hands of the United States, people of the CIA and the Southern Command headquartered in Panama. There is a second level of leadership made up mainly of Honduran Army officers and yet a lower level of command made up of former officers of Somoza's National Guard. Our main task is to do away with this. Then we will make another attempt at dialogue, which we have always wanted.

FOLHA: Bilateral or multilateral?

D'Escoto: The solution to the invasion calls for military action, which we have already undertaken, and also for direct dialogue with the United States and Honduras. At the same time, we wish to reiterate our call to the four nations of the Contadora Island accord (Venezuela, Mexico, Panama and Colombia) to use their good offices to reestablish this dialogue. Later on, a political dialogue will have to be held on the Salvadoran issue.

FOLHA: Don't you believe that if the Salvadoran rebels, which the United States says are being armed by the Nicaraguans, give signs of winning the struggle, Nicaragua could be invaded?

D'Escoto: The United States is well aware that Nicaragua is not arming the Salvadoran rebels.

FOLHA: But they say Nicaragua is arming them.

D'Escoto: Because they need to have a pretext to justify their criminal actions against Nicaragua. What is happening is that at a time when a profound revolution is taking place in Nicaragua, problems have emerged in El Salvador. Well then, there is nothing easier than to blame Nicaragua for it when in reality this is a process that goes back 50 years. This is a problem which has historical roots. If there is a guilty one outside the region, it is the United States. Internally, the guilty ones are the dictatorial and oligarchical governments which run the destiny of our nations and which refused to make the profound changes which the Central American people justly and rightly demanded. The people want to take their destiny into their own hands and improve their own lives.

FOLHA: Do you admit that there are a group of factors which serve as pretext for direct U.S. intervention in Central America?

D'Escoto: No action on the part of the United States can be disregarded. Its ability to act goes beyond our ability to imagine. However, it is also necessary to recognize that despite the desires of President Reagan, there are also the desires of the American People and the U.S. Congress. In addition to that, the current situation in Nicaragua demands more unity, at least on the part of the Latin American countries, in the form of a strong condemnation of the U.S. interventionist policies.

FOLHA: Has the Latin American response been adequate?

D'Escoto: I believe that the Latin American reaction to U.S. actions has always been weak. We are still not sufficiently aware of our strength. It is true that the dangers of the current situation are recognized. However, the response is not adequate because this danger should force us to be more strongly united against the imperialist monster. What happens is that the problem is recognized but there is a great deal of fear. Many, when recognizing the danger, respond with silence.

FOLHA: For example, has Brazil done anything positive up to now, or is it remaining silent?

D'Escoto: Look, there is only one Latin America. We should not fall into the temptation of being more in solidarity with the countries that are closer. Some countries are more distant from us and prefer to have Mexico speak up. I believe this is a mistake. It is the same thing as saying that a cobra bit me but since it bit me on the toe I do not have to worry. I think it is a single body, and it is necessary to take the required measures.

However, I do not want to focus on any particular country because relations with Brazil are very good. But I believe that the Latin American reaction was not strong enough.

D'ESCOTO DISCUSSES U.S. ROLE IN INVASION

PA161321 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 0145 GMT 16 Apr 83

["Exclusive" interview with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto Brockman during D'Escoto's 3-hour stopover at the Omar Torrijos International Airport in Panama City, Panama while enroute to Nicaragua from Colombia -- recorded]

[Text] [D'Escoto] First of all, it is an indisputable fact -- this has been admitted in the United States and revealed by the U.S. communications media, both the press and broadcast media -- that U.S. reporters accompanied the Somozist troops in their invasion of Nicaragua from Honduras. This is indisputable. It has also been proven that their camps are located in Honduras, that they have entered Nicaragua from Honduras, that they are directed by the United States and that the United States is financing them. So, why do we say that this is a U.S. war? Because the important thing is who plans, finances and directs the way and who provides the weapons. As I have already said many times, this is no less a war just because it has not been officially declared and no less a U.S. war just because the United States is using the former Somozist guards and Honduras as instruments. Indeed, it is a U.S. war, a war that the Reagan administration is currently waging against Nicaragua.

[Question] Are you willing to maintain a dialogue with the United States to solve this problem?

[Answer] Well, I would not say maintain. There is no dialogue. Before, during and even after the fact, we have requested a dialogue and we continue to insist on the importance of finding a solution through an open and constructive dialogue with the Reagan administration. They seem to be afraid of a dialogue. This must be true, because they have systematically rejected dialogue every time we have mentioned it.

[Question] Do you have plans to meet with your Honduran colleague, to discuss this problem of the guerrillas entering from Honduras?

[Answer] It is not the guerrillas, as you put it. It is a U.S. invasion, using guerrilla warfare techniques, it is an unconventional invasion, using guerrilla methods. It is a gringo invasion from Honduras. We have denounced this and, as you know, we have once again called for bilateral dialogue, not only with Honduras fundamentally, but with the United States, acting from Honduras.

[Question] What is your opinion of the Contadora Group's initiative to achieve peace in Central America?

[Answer] I believe that this is very positive. We have hopes that this time we will achieve detente in the area and a climate of peace in Central America, through dialogue and possible negotiations. All such initiatives have failed to date, though Nicaragua has always supported and accepted all of them. We hope that this new Contadora initiative will not meet the same fate as all of the other initiatives and that it will be successful. As far as we are concerned, Nicaragua will continue to cooperate, to the utmost, with the Contadora initiative.

[Question] What of the problems with Costa Rica, the border problems?

[Answer] The problems that have arisen with Costa Rica are of a completely different nature and we can say, thank God, that a very good process of bilateral dialogue is underway.

[Question] Would you say that Nicaragua is experiencing a civil war?

[Answer] Not a civil war, I have always said that it is an invasion.

[Question] What is your opinion of Eden Pastora's statements? He says that he is going to overthrow the Sandinist regime in 60 days.

[Answer] Well, he can try. Everyone is aware of Eden's histrionics and of his love for spectacular phrases. In any case, if he did say that, he should have his head examined.

[Question] Could a war be declared between Nicaragua and Honduras?

[Answer] It could, if this policy calling for greater Honduran involvement in the war that the United States is waging against Nicaragua does not end. We have always sought dialogue, by every means at the disposal of civilized countries, to avoid such an eventuality. They, however, do not accept a bilateral dialogue. Not only that, but Honduran complicity in Reagan's policy is increasing every day. It is obvious that the possibility of this war -- which everyone wants to avoid, which we in Nicaragua want to avoid -- is growing closer and becoming increasingly real.

[Question] One last question. How are the U.S. economic measures against you affecting you?

[Answer] Well, Nicaragua is a small country, a country that needs many things from its international, commercial and financial relations, in all aspects. This is a blow, but we have very broad international support, both here in Latin America and in Europe, from various countries throughout the world. This is not the key problem. The key thing is the current invasion of Nicaragua. They have sought to isolate Nicaragua, but have failed to do this and they will never succeed. The world already knows exactly how condemnable and deserving of repudiation President Reagan's aggressive policy is.

FMLN REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS ON U.S. IN C.A.

FL191620 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Portion of interview granted to the Political Information Program by Jorge Rodriguez, representative of the FMLN and the Democratic and Revolutionary Front of El Salvador, who is attending the Military-Industrial Complex Seminar; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Rodriguez] The U.S. imperialists have practically transformed Honduras into a military base for aggression against the Central American peoples. The maneuvers carried out recently -- Big Pine -- during which large quantities of U.S. arms, ammunitions and heavy equipment were used, was a way of legally transporting all that war materiel out of the United States without protest. After the maneuvers were over, all those arms and ammunition were left in Honduran territory. But today we realize that all that equipment has been given to the Honduran Army and the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary bands. Also, the supplying of Salvadoran guerrillas by the Soviet Union by way of Cuba, from Cuba to Nicaragua and from Nicaragua to El Salvador was used as an excuse to install a radar station some 7 kms to the south of the Honduran capital. This radar station will be operated by special forces of the U.S. Air Force. This radar practically covers the entire Nicaraguan, Honduran and Salvadoran territories as well as part of Guatemala, Belize and Costa Rica.

In addition, there are plans for a new military base in Honduras for training personnel, or transferring one of the bases in Panama to Honduras. According to the plan, they are planning to send 100 more [military] advisers to Honduras for training all these troops.

[Question] Some Latin American governments are making efforts aimed at achieving an agreement -- a peaceful solution to the conflict. What is the position of the FMLN and the Democratic and Revolutionary Front in this respect?

[Answer] We have made countless proposals on a dialogue and negotiations, but we have always been given a resounding negative response, both from the Salvadoran oligarchy and fascist sectors as well as from the Reagan administration. We continue to struggle for such a goal. Our position is to applaud the efforts being made by friendly governments, because we know the incalculable suffering that the regionalization of the war would cause to Central America. So far, based on our experience, we believe that the imperialists are little by little getting involved in a war.

At the beginning, they were dropping 200-lb bombs in El Salvador, using A-47 aircraft. Now they are dropping 500-lb bombs. They are also using napalm and white phosphorus. At the same time, they are conducting training in the use of toxic gases against the population at a store in the department of Sonsonate called (La Cuaita).

If they do this in a small country, like El Salvador, we can imagine how far the imperialists will go in a war in Central America, something which we would not like to see.

ROMESH CHANDRA ATTACKS U.S. 'WAR PLANS'

FL191330 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0733 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Havana, 19 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Romesh Chandra, president of the World Peace Council, said here today that the United States is responsible for the existing danger of a world war and condemned the aggressions, backed by Washington, against Nicaragua and Vietnam.

Chandra arrived in this capital today to participate in an international seminar on the role of the military-industrial complex in the preparation for nuclear war.

In statements to the PRENSA LATINA news agency he said that it is impossible to remain inactive in the face of that possibility of war, created by imperialism, which is the reason for the importance of this seminar in Havana.

He accused the United States of instigating the current Chinese attacks against Vietnam, a country which stands in the front line in the struggle for peace and the solution of the problems in Southeast Asia. The World Peace Council president stated that those aggressions are part of the overall plan of U.S. imperialism which includes the areas of Central America, the Middle East, Africa, the Indian Ocean and other parts of the world.

Chandra also stressed the importance of the World Conference on Peace and Life which will be held in Prague next June and reported that the World Peace Council has called for actions in May to prevent nuclear war by stepping up the struggle to stop the White House war plans.

CLOSING OF MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX SEMINAR

FL192000 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Romesh Chandra, president of the World Peace Council, has closed the seminar on the role of the military-industrial complex in the preparation for nuclear war against the peace, sovereignty and development of the peoples, with an urgent call for unity of action among all progressive forces of the world against the increasing armament race. The following is a report by our reporter (Rolando de la Rivera) from the Palace of Conventions in Havana on the final session of the event:

[Begin (Rivera) report] In the final declaration of the seminar, it is underscored that the military-industrial complex is nothing else but the close alliance among the military industry, the financial groups linked to it and the armed forces in intimate relationship with the organizations of political power in the capitalist states.

In the written theses submitted, and during the debates, contributions were made to clarify the structure and the interrelation among the components forming the military-industrial complex, as well as the degree of influence it exercises over the political decisionmaking centers of a given country.

In the case of the United States it is obvious, however, that the military-industrial complex has reached the stage of its greatest importance with the arrival of Ronald Reagan's administration at the White House.

In the final declaration of the event it is said that the modernization of the armament and the growth of arms production are reflected in the astronomic investments in this sector which total $700 billion per year and which, apart from exposing mankind to a great danger, are a heavy economic burden for a world subjected to the violent economic crisis of the capitalist system, considered as the most serious one in the last 50 years.

When giving his closing speech, Romesh Chandra stressed the importance of the World Peace Council meeting, which will be held in Prague shortly. He said that there, as well as here, those who are preparing for war will be attacked. He emphasized that we hope to be alive in the year 2000 and that every child will then have a glass of milk and a handful of rice. In conclusion he said that this seminar in Havana shows who are the people who reap benefits from war and starvation in the world. He concluded:

[Begin Chandra recording -- in English with simultaneous Spanish translation] In the cable he sent me after the summit meeting, Fidel told me something very simple but of the greatest significance for the World Peace Council. As far as Cuba is concerned, he said, you can count on the firmest and most enthusiastic support on the part of our people and our revolution for all activities undertaken by this worthy and prestigious body, the World Peace Council. I, in my turn, wish to express to Cuba that it signifies everything for us, and we always feel proud that Cuba is there; Cuba means victory in our struggle, it means unity, it means that glass of milk, that handful of rice for all peoples of the world. [end recording] [end (Rivera) report]

Soviet Reportage

For Moscow coverage of the Military-Industrial Complex Seminar held in Havana 16-19 April, see the Latin America & Caribbean Section of the Soviet DAILY REPORT for 20 April and subsequent issues.

SHULTZ VISIT TO MEXICO VIEWED BY TV COMMENTATORS

FL192040 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1245 GMT 19 Apr 83

[International commentary by Jose Fernandez Vilela of the Revista de la Manana program staff and Javier Rodriguez of PRENSA LATINA]

[Excerpts] [Fernandez Vilela] Good morning, dear television viewers.

Well, Javier, in Mexico City a bilateral meeting is going on between the United States and the Mexican Government. The participants for the United States are Secretary of State George Shultz, Secretary of the Treasury Donald Regan and Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldridge, who are discussing bilateral problems with their Mexican counterparts and the restrictions imposed by Reagan on the trade between the two nations. There is no doubt, however, that the most important topic of these talks between Mexico and the United States is the problematic situation in Central America about which the two countries have open disagreements, that is, they maintain diametrically opposite positions and this is a controversial point at the meeting which has been called a meeting of the Binational Commission.

[Rodriguez] It seems to me, Vilela, that the visit of the U.S. delegation, headed by Secretary of State George Shultz, is taking place at a time of greatest importance for the peace of Central America and the Caribbean and I also believe for the peace of all the continent.

It is really interesting to analyze the nature of this visit and the interpretation given to it by the international news media, the news media in the United States itself and the capitalist news agencies. Most of them agree in saying that the main objective of the mission of the high-ranking U.S. officials who have arrived in Mexico is that of trying to influence the development of U.S. (as heard) foreign policy, above all the Mexican position regarding Central America. It is a question, and this is openly said by U.S. publications and capitalist news agencies, of putting pressure on the Mexican Government somehow or other to make changes in its foreign policy.

To this end is used the situation caused by the Mexican foreign debt, the need for financingy and the negotiations which are going on between the IMF and the Mexican Government.

[Fernandez Vilela] In this connection it is very significant, Javier, that since Reagan came to power one of the arguments of the Reagan administration is the famous domino theory in Central America, whose final objective, according to them, would be Mexico. Mexico has rejected this on various occasions. Mexican Foreign Minister Sepulveda himself has said that it is simplistic to think of the domino theory in relation to international problems and that Mexico's problems are related to those of Central America but that nothing that happens there would have a decisive influence on Mexico. The objective of the Reagan administration and the U.S. bellicose sectors is to scare certain Mexican sectors, certain political and economic Mexican sectors, so that they come closer to the United States because of the Central American specter. This is one of the objectives of the visit to Mexico by Shultz and the other U.S. leaders.

[Rodriguez] There seems to be no doubt about this and I believe that the background to all this should be sought in the real disagreements existing between the two countries regarding the approach to foreign policy. The United States definitely does not agree with the independent Mexican foreign policy, which has caused the latter country to take up its own position, such as the refusal to join the blockade of Cuba; the refusal to participate in the aggressive maneuvers against Nicaragua, its position of support of the Sandinista government and the Sandinista revolution; its defense of Nicaragua's right to decide its own future and also, for example, the correct position taken by Mexico in favor of a negotiated solution in El Salvador to put an end to the conflict in that country in a fair manner.

INTERIM COOPERATION TALKS OPENED WITH SPAIN

FL192045 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1920 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] A meeting opened this morning at the main offices of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation to look into the expansion of scientific-technical cooperation between Cuba and Spain. During the meeting, which is scheduled to run through Thursday, the two sides will discuss 14 topics for possible cooperation, such as tourism, public health, higher education, labor, social security and transportation.

Enrique Larrogue, Spanish ambassador to Cuba and head of his country's delegation, said the objective of these talks was to identify cooperation programs in order to make subsequent proposals. After this process, the delegations of the joint intergovernmental commission will meet in Havana to make the final determinations for cooperation agreements.

GRENADA

AUSTIN CALLS ON PEOPLE TO JOIN ARMY SUPPORT

FL200100 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Gen Hudson Austin of the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces has been underscoring the importance of the support services of the Armed Forces in the overall defense of the country. Gen Austin was at the time speaking in an interview with RFG's [Radio Free Grenada] [name indistinct] on the upcoming (Jeremiah Richardson) Defense of the Homeland Maneuver.

[Begin Austin recording] These services are very, very important. First and foremost, in the face of attack we will need to evacuate older folks and children and this is going to be part of the evacuation of the (?area). We will need to find food for these people, we will need to take care of the children, we will need to have medical supplies, medical treatment given to some of the people, and that is the important role that the service section plays. [end recording]

General Austin said that some of the folks who have come forward to the service section from the middle age bracket will also be able to carry out important duties, such as the digging of trenches and foxholes. He stressed that, in the event of an attack, these trenches and foxholes will be extremely necessary for protecting the troops. He also pointed to other tasks that the support services will have to [word indistinct] the erection of tents, medication of wounded comrades, drivers and cooks to supply food for the hungry. He called on Grenadians who might not want to be in the frontlines with a gun, to step forward and make their input in the support services of the Armed Forces.

SOCIETY MARKS CUBA'S BAY OF PIGS VICTORY

FL192355 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Grenada and other progressive countries in the region and the world over today joined the Cuban people in celebrating the 22nd anniversary of Cuba's victory in the Bay of Pigs invasion. In 1961, hundreds of counterrevolutionaries, financed and trained by the United States, invaded Cuba but were defeated in less than 72 hours by the Cuban Armed Forces.

In Grenada, the occasion is being observed with an (?in study) being hosted tonight at Teacher's College by the Grenada-Cuba Friendship Society.

JAMAICA

CIVIL SERVANTS ON STRIKE OVER PAY DISPUTE

FL182000 Bridgetown CANA in English 1754 GMT 18 Apr 83

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Excerpt] Kingston, Jamaica, April 18, CANA -- Jamaican civil servants went on strike today over a pay dispute with the government that could trigger work stoppages by school teachers and junior doctors this week.

The strikers are protesting a government plan to increase managers' pay by up to 45 per cent, while offering lower-paid civil servants a flat allowance of under 800 dollars (one Jamaica: 56 cents U.S.) a year.

The Jamaica Civil Service Association (CSA), which called the work stoppage, said it was pleased with the response so far and vowed to continue the protest measure until government come up with a more acceptable pay offer.

NO SOLUTION YET TO JAMAICA'S EXCHANGE SYSTEM

FL181945 Bridgetown CANA in English 1732 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, April 18, CANA -- Problems that have snarled trade between Jamaica and other Caribbean Community (Caricom) member countries have not been fully ironed out, even though Jamaica has offered to make concessions, Foreign Trade Minister Hugh Shearer has reported.

The talks followed Jamaican introduction of a controversial two-tier foreign exchange system that trading partners said made their goods more expensive in Jamaica, and retaliatory action by Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago has slowed down the movement of goods in the community.

Mr Shearer last week met Barbados' Trade Minister Bernard St John, Trinidad and Tobago's Desmond Cartey, and Antigua and Barbuda's Lester Bird to find a solution to the problem.

Mr Shearer said in a weekend speech that they had worked on a package "to enable the resumption of trade."

"The proposals which deal with the exchange rate, licensing and origin criterai, are in the final stage of examination," he told members of the Jamaica Exporters Association (JEA).

As if to emphasize that Jamaica was not the stumbling block to an agreement, Mr Shearer added: "I take it that the JEA recognises that it is not a decision to be taken by Jamaica alone."

Mr St John and Mr Bird, the chairman of the Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS), were apparently willing to accept the Jamaican formula, according to the sources, but Mr Cartey had on Thursday said he had sought information from Port of Spain on which to make a commitment.

Apparently, Trinidad and Tobago Government felt that it needed more time to analyse the issues, and the ministers left here yesterday without any formal statement on the discussions.

"I can say that Mr Cartey did not receive the information he had sought," one official here said today.

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

CATO FIRES HOME AFFAIRS MINISTER ARTHUR WOODS

FL200015 Bridgetown CANA in English 2357 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Kingstown, St Vincent, April 19, CANA -- Minister of home affairs, housing, local government and community development of St Vincent and the Grenadines, Arthur T. Woods, has been dismissed by Prime Minister Milton Cato, the Government Information Service (GIS) announced today.

The GIS statement gave no reason for the dismissal of Woods, who was appointed in February 1980. Parliamentary secretary in Mr Woods' ministry, Ken Browne, has been appointed.

Mr Woods, a lawyer by profession, entered Parliament in 1972.

He retained his seat in the 1974 general election and was elected speaker of Parliament, a post which he held until August, 1979 when he was appointed to act as minister of communications, works and labour.

Mr Browne, the youngest serving parliamentarian here, had been parliamentary secretary since November, 1980. He entered Parliament following the 1979 general election.

LET NICARAGUA, GRENADA CHOOSE PATH, BURNHAM SAYS

FL192035 Bridgetown CANA in English 2010 GMT 19 Apr 83

[By Edwin Ali]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 19, CANA -- Guyana's President Forbes Burnham has said that leftist-ruled Nicaragua and Grenada should be allowed to choose whatever path to development they want without outside interference. Burnham's comments were made at a banquet here for a visiting member of Yugoslavia's Presidium, Vidoje Zarkovic, who is now winding up a four-day official visit to Guyana.

They followed claims by Nicaragua and Grenada that the U.S. was trying to topple the two governments. "(Nicaragua and Grenada) are entitled to settle their own internal problems and proceed along their chosen paths without interference or self-seeking patronage coupled with hypocritical protestations from without," the Guyana leader said.

In an apparent reference to troubled Central America, Burnham said: "...It should be the objective of the various states within the region to remove the cause of tension and to accept historical facts."

He also commented on border disputes in South and Central America. "We in Guyana in common with most of the region are concerned over the claims of Guatemala to the world of Belize, ignoring their right to self-determination and independence," he said.

"We are concerned over the claim of Venezuela to 70 percent of Guyana, and would like to believe that neither the Venezuelan or the Guatemalan claim is inspired from without."

Earlier, the president had told Mr Zarkovic that: "Whether we live in Europe or Latin America, we want peace, we need peace and look with horror at the mounting arms race and the serious threat of a nuclear holocaust."

He said there could be no doubt that with the scope of modern technology and any state could win a nuclear war, "the real loser is such an event will be mankind," he said.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE, PROTOCOL RELEASED WITH SFRY

FL192110 Bridgetown CANA in English 2042 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 19, CANA -- A joint communique today announced the signing of the protocol covering a wide range of areas of economic cooperation between Guyana and Yugoslavia. Speaking at a news conference shortly before departing after a four-day official visit, Dr Rikard Stainer, a member of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, said the two governments had agreed to expand economic cooperation "on a vast scale."

"We have identified various products which we will exchange for the benefit of the people of the two countries," he said. The communique did not give specific details on the areas of cooperation. Dr Stainer said a mixed committee had been established to deal with the issues agreed on. "We have agreed on very vast and effective means of cooperation in the fields of exploiting mineral oils, energy, agro-products and also on joint venture," Dr Stainer said.

He added that Yugoslavia would assist Guyana in the construction of a number of industries and provide the necessary machinery and equipment under favourable conditions. "We also agreed to intensify cooperation in the field of science and technology and will be providing Guyanese with the necessary educational training," he said.

The communique was signed by a member of the Presidency of Yugoslavia, Vidoje Zarkovic and Guyana's president, Forges Burnham. "They stressed that it is more than ever imperative for all states and forces in favour of peace and development [to] be encouraged to promote peaceful co-existence, respect for ideological pluralism and the democratisation of international relations," the communique said.

"The two sides emphasised the necessity for the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to continue to play its role in international affairs as an influential non-bloc factor and to maintain and strengthen its thrust in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo colonialism, racism and foreign domination in all its forms and manifestations," the communique added.

The two men expressed their conviction that "a more generally constructive approach by major powers to the issues of arms control and disarmament, particularly in the nuclear field, was urgently required if the present dangers for regional and global conflagration are to be avoided." The two sides examined recent developments in southern Africa and "reiterated their total abhorrence of the practice of apartheid in South Africa and condemned the repeated acts of naked aggression perpetrated by the Pretoria regime against independent neighbouring African states."

They called for the early implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations so as to secure without further delay the independence of Namibia.

"The two sides reaffirmed their common position that the restoration of the national right of the Palestinian people, led by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), including their right to a homeland in Palestine, remained central to a just and lasting solution of the Middle East situation and the Palestine question," the communique said.

They reiterated that peace in the region required as well the withdrawal of Israel from Arab territories occupied since 1967, and respect for the rights of all peoples and states to live within secured boundaries. The Israeli invasion of Lebanon this year was condemned.

The two sides also urged a speedy end to hostilities in the "costly war between non-aligned Iraq and Iran and for early discussions leading to the solution of the differences between the two countries." Guyana and Yugoslavia reiterated their support for the development of the Caribbean as a zone of peace and "expressed their profound concern over the prevailing tensions, especially in Central America and the Caribbean."

On Venezuela's claim to two thirds of Guyana, the Yugoslav official "stressed his conviction that this problem should be solved by peaceful means based on the principles of the policy of non-alignment and within the framework of the Geneva agreement."